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Message: Attached is the International Search Report.

Best regards,



Thomas H. Ham

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US02/23276

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : B24B 7/00 9/00 51/00 1/00

US CL : 156/345.12, 345.31, 345.32; 438/692; 414/271; 216/88

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 156/345.12, 345.31, 345.32; 438/692; 414/271; 216/88

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
USPAT**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5,655,954 A (OISHI et al) 12 August 1997 (12.08.1997), abstract, cols. 3 and 4 and claims	1-8, 10-48, 50-58, and 60-66
X	US 6,036,582 A (AIZAWA et al) 14 March 2000 (14.03.2000), especially col. 1, 5-7, and 12	1-8, 10-48, 50-58, and 60-66
X	US 5,830,045 A (TOGAWA et al) 03 November 1998 (03.11.1998), abstract, col. 3, 5, 6 and claims	1-8, 10-48, 50-58, and 60-66
X	US 5,827,110 A (YAJIMA et al) 27 October 1998 (27.10.1998), col. 5 and 6	1-8, 10-48, 50-58, and 60-66
Y	US 5,337,015 A (LUSTIG et al) 09 August 1994 (09.08.1994), abstract and col. 4-10	9, 49, 59
Y	US 5,948,203 A (WANG) 07 September 1999 (07.09.1999), abstract and col. 4	9, 49, 59

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☐ See patent family annex.

Special categories of cited documents:	
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" documents member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search

28 December 2002 (28.12.2002)

Date of mailing of the international search report

14 JAN 2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

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